

March 03, 2023

## HR 1006 - SUPPORT

State Highway Administration - Vegetation Management - Pollinator Habitat Plan Delegate Ruth Environment and Transportation

Dear Chair Barve, Vice-Chair Stein, and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35 percent of the world's food crops depend on animal pollinators to reproduce. Bees are disappearing and bats are dying. These and other animal pollinators face many challenges in the modern world. Habitat loss, disease, parasites, and environmental contaminants have all contributed to the decline of many species of pollinators. Pollinators that can't find the right quantity or quality of food (nectar and pollen from blooming plants within flight range) don't survive. Right now, there simply aren't enough pollinator friendly plantings to support pollinators.

This bill targets the pollinator plantings shortage problem. Secular Maryland appeals to lawmakers to enact this bill.

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